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# U. S. ASKS SCRAPPING OF BATTLESHIPS

## GAVEL RAP OPENS BIG ARMS MEET

Hughes Starts Epochal Conference at 10:33 O'Clock.

Washington, Nov. 12.—The greatest international conference ever held in America is under way. With the leading representatives of nine nations seated around a big horseshoe "table of understanding," Secretary of State Hughes, head of the American delegation, opened with a rap of his gavel the international conference of limitation of armaments and far eastern questions.

The gavel fell at 10:33 a. m. Prayer for its success came first on the conference program.

President Harding, introduced by Secretary Hughes, welcomed the delegates in a stirring appeal to outlaw war.

Harding is cheered.

The president was given an ovation by the foreign delegation and the 1,500 spectators who filled every available foot of space in the hall. Standing beside Hughes at the head of the conference table, Harding then formally opened the conference in motion in a brief address of welcome.

Harding arrived shortly after 10:30.

Mrs. Harding took a place in a box reserved for her.

Applause broke out when the news of the appointment of Hughes as Secretary of State, entered the left chamber and moved to the head of the table.

All Are Seated.

The delegates took their seats with Hughes, Lodge, Root and Underwood on his right in that order. The British, Belgian, Portuguese and Dutch delegations were ranged about the foot of the great table.

General Pershing, sitting erect, was just back of Hughes.

Chief Justice Taft sat with Vice President Coolidge.

News of appointment of Viscount Takahashi, as Japanese premier, succeeding the late Premier Hara, caused a stir of interest among the delegates.

The floor was a mass of the world's greatest statesmen, military and naval leaders, and the most illustrious army and navy men, bedecked with medals and decorations, made the conference floor appear more like a council of war, than of peace.

Harding advanced to the head of the table, where Hughes shook his hand.

How in Prayer.

The audience stood with bowed heads during the invocation. Hughes' first words were:

"The conference will be opened with prayer."

Harding shook hands with Dr. Abernethy after the prayer.

Hughes then said simply: "The president of the United States," and the entire audience again rose in spontaneous applause.

Copies of the president's speech, translated into the language of each delegate, were distributed.

Applause broke out when Harding emphatically said:

"It is no unseemly boast that this will have a signal influence on all human progress—in the fortunes of the world."

President Describes War.

The president spoke feelingly as he outlined the terrible effects of the war.

He eloquently praised the untiring efforts of the president's peace mission, when he shouted that "all thoughtful peoples" would be war outlawed.

Harding finished his speech at 10:53.

The galleries broke into a wild demonstration when the president said, "our hundred millions want peace and none of war."

Members of the house and senate sprang to their feet, applauding mightily. The delegates remained seated.

Chairs broke out when Harding's speech ended, shook hands with the American, British and French delegates.

Ovation for Falfour.

Arthur Balfour, head of the British delegation, was given a big ovation when he arose to nominate Secretary Hughes as permanent chairman.

Hughes announced that both

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SPRINGFIELD AND PEORIA BUS BURNS

Springfield, Ill., Nov. 12.—(United Press.)—One of the big bus fires operating between Springfield and Peoria was totally destroyed by fire twelve miles north of here, late yesterday. No passengers were aboard.

## ELOQUENCE OF HARDING GETS BRYAN PRAISE

President "Rises To Lofly Requirements of Occasion."

BY WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN. (Copyright, 1921, by United Press.) Washington, Nov. 12.—The opening of the conference could not have been more impressive.

While the burial of the unknown soldier yesterday was not strictly a part of the disarmament conference, it brought together all of the principal delegates. The president's speech was almost entirely devoted to the subject which calls the conference together.

If all the peace advocates of the world had joined in planning a service which would portray the awfulness of war and proclaimed the glories of peace they could not have conceived such a compelling scene as that upon which the conference looked on Armistice day.

An air of solemnity pervaded the amphitheatre. Seldom have so many people assembled and listened and dispersed so silently. The religious element combined with the spirit of patriotism inspired a feeling of worship and consecration. The delegates present, who attended today's opening session of the conference, cannot but have been profoundly impressed and moved by the spectacle.

The stillness was profound. The president, I think, rose to the lofty requirements of the extraordinary occasion. In thought, in expression, and in delivery he surpassed all of his previous efforts. Only a great occasion calls for that great speech. He is not likely to go beyond the record of that day.

Several of his sentences will live. One, "on the threshold of eternity, many a soldier, I can well believe, would color the stream of life," and another, "burial here is rather more than a sign of the government's favor—it is a suggestion of a tomb in the heart of a nation sorrowing for its noble dead," are worthy of the best traditions of American eloquence.

No commanding officer and no soldier whose name was known could so fittingly receive the nation's homage, or plead so eloquently against the carnage of the battlefield. From the beginning of history myriads of unknowns have been offered on the altar of Mars, and millions more, who for a fleeting day were known by name and loved by friends, no record remains. Their blood pleads piteously for peace; their sacrifices have purchased for posterity release from bondage to the barbarism of war. All of the noble dead join in the petition presented by the living that the conference now in session lead the world to peace through universal disarmament.

**\$12,000 TAKEN IN BANK HOLDUP**

Alton, Ill., Nov. 12.—Six men today held up the Illinois State bank at East Alton, severely beat the cashier and assistant cashier, and escaped with \$12,000, leaving, according to directors of the bank, only \$6 in the institution. The men made their getaway in an automobile.

**ATTEMPT LIFE OF RUSS LEADER**

Riga, Latvia, Nov. 12.—(By the Associated Press.)—A Russian received here today from Moscow that an attempt had been made on the life of M. Chicherin, Russian foreign minister. The attempt was unsuccessful, according to the dispatch, which added that 3,000 arrests had been made.

**Independents vs. Staleys On The Argus Grid Board**

Everything is in readiness for reproducing on The Argus' new gridiron player board tomorrow afternoon, every detail of the Rock Island Independent-DeCATur Staley game at Cubs' park in Chicago. The game is scheduled to start at 2 o'clock in the field, and this means 2 o'clock in Rock Island, for Chicago is no longer governed by daylight saving time.

A special leased wire direct from the press box at Cubs' park to The Argus office, will carry the running account of the game. A description of each play will be in Rock Island before the following play in the actual game is started. Rock Island and tri-city football fans who avail themselves of this opportunity of seeing the biggest professional clash in the midwest, as the guests of The Argus, will know what takes place within a few seconds after it actually happens at Chicago.

Those who have witnessed any or all of the games played in front of The Argus this season, will be agreeably surprised by the new board. All that remains of the old board is the platform. The new one covers 16 feet with a depth of eight. The field is 100 by 50 inches, a scale of one inch to the foot in comparison with standard playing field. It is installed lengthwise, thus exposing the goal posts at both ends to every onlooker, regardless of position in the street.

The new board is of galvanized iron construction. It is green with white yard lines. The system of operation enables instantaneous record of the various plays. The method of inserting printed cards for this purpose, has been done away with.

Our parting advice: Don't miss this opportunity of seeing something absolutely new and original. It can be seen no other place in the country.

## President Opening Great Conference



### High Lights in Harding Speech

"Here is a meeting . . . which is an earnest of the awakened conscience of 20th century civilization."

"Here in the United States we are but freshly turned from the burial of an unknown American soldier."

"A hundred millions of our people were summarizing the inexcusable cause . . . and there was the ever-impelling question, 'How can humanity justify or God forgive?'"

"Human hate demands no such tolls, ambition and greed must be denied it."

"No pride need be humbled, no nationality submerged."

"Our hundred millions frankly want less of armament and more of peace."

"We are met for a service to mankind."

## MEETING OF CABINET IS POSTPONED

Ulster Proposal Won't Be Discussed Till Next Week.

London, Nov. 12.—(United Press.)—The meeting of the British cabinet scheduled for discussion of Ulster's counter proposal for an Irish settlement, was postponed today over the weekend.

London, Nov. 12.—(By the Associated Press.)—Although one or two newspapers express grave disappointment at the Ulster cabinet's rejection of the government's plan for a settlement of the Irish question, the London press this morning generally sees no reason to regard the situation as more serious or hope for a settlement as being lessened.

**Press Optimistic.**

It is pointed out that, while the Ulsterites rejected the proposals on the ground that they contained fundamental principles which were "impossible of attainment" under existing conditions, they had also signified their intention of making counter proposals which would indicate other and more practical means of securing peace without infringing upon the rights of Ulster.

**Didn't "Slam Door."**

Some of the correspondents say the Ulster reply was exactly what had been expected and that it in no way implies that Premier Sir James Craig and his colleagues mean to slam the door to further negotiations. They recall that it took a long time to bring the Sinn Feiners into conference with the government and that they also raised objections and took an irreconcilable attitude, but that the differences in their case had been overcome and the same might be hoped in Ulster's case.

## Disarmament Conference Is Humanity's Call for Peace, Harding Tells, Delegates

Washington, Nov. 12.—The text of President Harding's address at the opening of the conference on limitation of armaments follows:

"Mr. Secretary, and members of the conference, ladies and gentlemen: "It is a great and happy privilege to bid the delegates to this conference a cordial welcome to the capital of the United States of America. It is not only a satisfaction to greet you because we were lately participants in a common cause, in which shared sacrifices and sorrows and triumphs brought our nations more closely together, but it is gratifying to address you as the spokesmen for nations whose convictions and attending actions have so much to do with the well or woe of all mankind."

**Must Lift Burdens.**

"Out of the cataclysm of the World War came new fellowships, new convictions, new inspirations. It is ours to make the most of them. A world be held the unquestioned possession of all peoples. Inherent rights are of God, and the tragedies of the world originate in their attempted denial. The world today is infringing their enjoyment of arms to defend or deny, when simple equity calls for their recognition through common understanding."

**Must Lift Burdens.**

"It is not alone that the world cannot adjust itself and cast aside the excess burdens without relief from the leaders of men. War has grown progressively cruel and more destructive from the first recorded conflict to this pregnant day, and the reverse order would more become our boasted civilization."

**America Unselfish.**

"Gentlemen of the conference, the United States welcomes you with unselfish hands. We harbor no fears; we have no sordid ends to serve, we suspect no enemy; we contemplate or apprehend no conquest. We seek nothing which is another's loss. We only wish to do with you that finer, nobler thing which no nation can do alone."

"We wish to sit with you at the table of international understanding and good will. In good conscience we are eager to meet you"

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## HOWAT PLANS TO ENTER POLITICS

Kansas Miner Leader Will Organize and Lead New Labor-Political Union When Jail Term Ends.

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 12.—(United Press.)—A national labor-political union will be organized and led by Alexander Howat, suspended president of District 14, United Mine Workers of America, when he is released from jail, state officials said today.

Preliminary formation of the organization, to be modeled after the labor party of Great Britain, has already been started by Howat; he has been in several states, including Illinois, Kansas and California, it was said.

## FARRINGTON REPLIES TO JOHN LEWIS

Charges National Head Has Made Wreck of Miners' Union.

Peoria, Ill., Nov. 12.—Frank Farrington, president of the Illinois Mine Workers, today issued the following reply to a statement by John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers of America, made in Washington last night:

"If John L. Lewis was in Peoria as he was urged to be he would know that the Illinois Mine Workers are not being misled by ranting demagogues, as stated in a Washington press dispatch, and he would also understand that it is useless for him to try to delude them by saying that those who are advising Illinois Mine Workers are doing so because of a desire to promote their political ambitions."

**Plays Politics.**

"I know of no one in Illinois who is desirous of succeeding President Lewis. There are a number of men here, however, who are doing their best to repair the wreck made by the miners' union by John L. Lewis in his efforts to entrench himself politically in the United Mine Workers of America."

Peoria, Ill., Nov. 12.—Introduction of resolutions is scheduled to occupy the attention of the Illinois Mine Workers, in annual convention held today. Practically all of the delegates will leave here late this afternoon for their respective homes but will return here for the sessions which will be resumed Monday morning. It is thought that the convention will continue until next Friday afternoon.

**Kansans to Speak.**

There was no afternoon session yesterday, the entire morning being taken up with the proposition to finance the Kansas miners in their efforts to defeat the Kansas industrial law which has resulted in the imprisonment in the state of Kansas, Alexander Howat, president of the Kansas miners.

Out of the 550 delegates voting on the resolution yesterday pledging the Kansas miners \$90,000 monthly, only 15 opposed the resolution, making it practically unanimous. This subject will be further discussed Monday morning when Reimond Brennan, chief counsel of the Kansas miners, will address the convention.

Shortly after the convention convened this morning, President Farrington read to the delegates telegrams from 20 local unions in Illinois, congratulating and endorsing the action of the convention in pledging the \$90,000 to the Kansas City miners.

## GAG WATCHMAN; STEAL WHISKY

Peoria, Ill., Nov. 12.—Thirteen high-jackers, early today, at the point of rifles, bound and gagged the night watchman at the plant of the Liberty Yeast corporation, formerly the Globe distillery, Peoria, and escaped with a truck with at least 16 barrels of bonded whisky, valued at more than \$30,000. The watchman, an hour later, released himself and reported to the police.

## THE WEATHER

Snow or rain probable tonight and Sunday. Warmer tonight. Highest temperature yesterday, 32; lowest last night, 13. Wind velocity at 7 a. m., 4 miles per hour.

Precipitation, trace. 12 m. 7 p.m. 7 a.m. yesterday, yesterday, today. Dry bulb temp., 31 29 14. Wet bulb temp., 27 25 13. Relative humidity, 56 58 90. Sunset today, 4:45 p. m.; sunrise tomorrow, 6:51 a. m.

River stage at 7 a. m., 2.4. Rise of .2 last 24 hours.

**River Forecast.**

The Mississippi river from below Dubuque to Muscatine will change but little during the next few days. A. M. HAMRICK, Meteorologist.

Washington, Nov. 12.—(United Press.)—Weather outlook for the period Nov. 14 to 19 inclusive:

Ohio Valley and Tennessee, region of Great Lakes: Considerable cloudiness, occasional rains or snow and temperature somewhat below normal.

Upper Mississippi and lower Missouri Valleys: Temperature near or above normal with generally fair weather, except for occasional light rains or snows in upper Mississippi Valley.

## PASTOR THANKS GOD FOR COMING OF ARMS MEET

Opening Prayer Asks Clear Vision for Delegates.

Washington, Nov. 12.—(By the Associated Press.)—The prayer with which the armament and far eastern conference was opened today was offered by the Rev. W. S. Abernethy, pastor of Calvary Baptist church, Washington, and was as follows:

"Almighty God, we thank Thee for the coming of this eventful day. We have seen it from afar and now we rejoice that it has at last dawned. May it bring untold blessing to a troubled world. O, Thou omnipotent One, as in other days, we believe that Thou dost guide in human affairs. Thou has made of one blood all nations that dwell upon the earth, and though we are of many races and many tongues, yet the interests of the few are the interests of the larger number. May we feel assured that the welfare and happiness and prosperity of the human family are inexpressibly dear to Thy heart."

**Think Duties.**

"We pray for clear vision or we shall grope blindly for the light and lose our way. We pray for hearts lovingly sympathetic to human distress wherever it may exist. We shall sink into the depths of a miserable selfishness. We pray for minds willing to believe that the strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, or we shall miss the great joy of service. We pray for the forward look, so we shall be overwhelmed in hopeless pessimism. We pray for the ability to think clearly, to think fairly, to act wisely. Help us to think less often of our rights and more often of our duties and responsibilities."

**Save Or We Perish.**

"We pray at this hour, on behalf of a world in sore need. Thou art not unmindful of the sufferings of Thy people. The cries of the multitudes of windows and orphan homes have come up before Thee, O God. We have seen Thy terrible baptism of blood. There is hunger and pestilence and unutterable anguish. God forbid that the woes of these years should ever again be visited upon the earth. Can it be Thou hast permitted us thus to suffer in order that we might turn from our own devices to Thee and acknowledge Thee as King of our lives and our destinies? Out of the depths we cry unto Thee. Save us or we perish."

**Walk Softly.**

"May we walk softly and humbly before Thee, O God, and throughout the fateful days of this great conference. May we be intent on knowing Thy will; and knowing it, may we have the courage to do it. And may it not be the findings of this conference shall be for the good of all, and so beneficial that all mankind may take new hope and fresh courage. And to Thee, shall be the praise and the glory forever, and forever. Amen."

## PROCLAMATION OF PEACE WITH GERMANY SOON

Harding Plans Early Action Making the Treaty Effective.

Washington, Nov. 12.—(United Press.)—President Harding today planned to issue an early proclamation of peace between America and Germany. It had been delayed awaiting word of exchange of treaty ratifications, but this step was taken yesterday in Berlin between Commissioner Dressel of the American-Berlin mission, and Chancellor Wirth of Germany.

**To Pardon Debs.**

American business men welcomed the actual establishment of peace, since lack of it had curtailed their trading up to this time. With peace re-established, it is expected President Harding will not favorably on release of Eugene V. Debs. A delegation of world war veterans was to call on the president today urging freeing of men imprisoned for utterances during the war. There are about 150 so-called political prisoners, many of whom will probably obtain freedom fairly soon.

## SMALL TRIAL TO START DEC. 28?

Governor's Attorneys Request Hearing on Three Preliminary Motions on Dec. 5.

Waukegan, Ill., Nov. 12.—(By the Associated Press.)—Request that all preliminary motions in the embalmment case against Governor Len Small be heard on Dec. 5, was made today by attorneys for the governor and the state's attorneys in office of Sangamon county. In event that the indictments are sustained they asked that the trial be started at the earliest possible date. Dec. 28 is being considered as a possible date for opening the trial.

## PROPOSAL IS VOICED BY HUGHES

Would Have Naval Powers Abandon All Building Programs.

Washington, Nov. 12.—The armament conference was called to order by Secretary Hughes at 10:33 a. m.

Arthur Balfour, nominated Secretary Hughes for chairman of the armament conference, John W. Garrett, of Baltimore, former minister to the Netherlands, was selected as secretary, general of the conference.

The conference on limitation of armaments adjourned at 12:22 o'clock until Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 11 a. m.

Washington, Nov. 12.—America's concrete proposal for limitation of naval armaments—the crux of the arms conference—was presented today by Secretary Hughes at the very opening of the first session. Briefly, it is as follows:

1—That all capital ship building programs, either actual or projected, should be abandoned.

2—That further reduction should be made through the scrapping of certain of the older ships.

3—That, in general, regard should be had to the existing naval strength of the powers concerned.

4—That the capital ships' tonnage should be used as the measurement of strength for navies and a proportionate allowance of auxiliary combatant craft prescribed.

For the United States the program would scrap all capital ships under construction, 15 in number, and 15 of the older battleships.

Great Britain would stop construction on her four new ships of the Hood type and scrap all her second and first line battleships up to the King George V. class.

**Ten-Year Limit.**

As a replacement program, the American government proposed that no more ships be laid down for the next 10 years, and that a maximum replacement tonnage figure be fixed providing eventually for 500,000 tons for the United States, 500,000 tons for Great Britain and 200,000 tons for Japan.

A proviso also would be included permitting replacement of capital ships when they were 20 years old and prohibiting construction of any ship built in replacement with a tonnage of more than 35,000 tons. The text of the proposals as its details concern the three leading naval powers, is as follows:

**Mits 16 U. S. Ships.**

The United States is now completing its program of 1916 calling for 19 new battleships and six battle cruisers. One battleship has been completed. The others are in various stages of construction, in some cases from 60 to 80 per cent of the construction have been done. On these 16 ships now being built over \$230,000,000 have been spent. Still, the United States is willing, in the interests of an immediate limitation of naval armaments, to scrap all these ships.

**Scheme Outlined.**

The United States proposes, if this plan is accepted:

1—To scrap all capital ships now under construction. This includes six battle cruisers and seven battleships on the ways and in the course of building, and two battleships launched.

The total number of new capital ships thus to be scrapped, is 15. The total tonnage of the new capital ships when completed would be 618,000 tons.

2—To scrap all of the older battleships up to but not including the Delaware and North Dakota. The number of these old battleships to be scrapped is 15. Their total tonnage is 227,740 tons.

Thus the number of capital ships to be scrapped by the United States if this plan is accepted, is 30 with an aggregate tonnage (including that of ships in construction, if completed) of \$45,740 tons.

**Great Britain.**

The plan contemplates that Great Britain shall take action which is

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## DENY MADALYNNE TRIAL PETITION

Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 12.—(United Press.)—Presiding Judge Conroy of appellate court today handed down a decision denying the petition of Madalynne Oshenchain for immediate trial for the alleged murder of J. Belton Kennedy.